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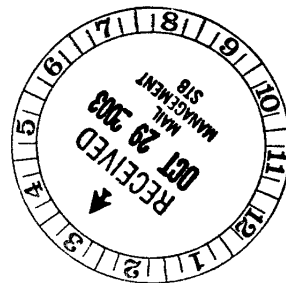
OCT 29 2003

Via UPS Overnight Mail

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Public Record

October 28, 2003

The Honorable Vernon A. Williams, Secretary
Office of the Secretary
Surface Transportation Board
1925 K Street, N.W., Room 700
Washington, D.C. 20423-0001



**Re: Finance Docket No. 34392
New Jersey Rail Carrier, LLC – Acquisition and Operation Exemption –
Former Columbia Terminals, Kearny, NJ**

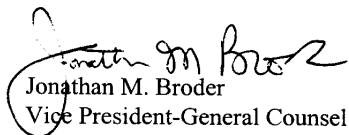
Dear Secretary Williams:

Consolidated Rail Corporation ("Conrail") is in receipt of the Statement of New Jersey Rail Carrier LLC ("NJRC") that was filed in the referenced proceeding on October 14, 2003. By this letter, Conrail is requesting a thirty (30) day extension for filing its responsive pleading to said Statement. We note that the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection has made a similar request, which was granted by the Board pursuant to an Order dated October 22, 2003.

Conrail is making this request because it requires more time to evaluate NJRC's proposal and its potential impact on Conrail's rail operations. In paragraph 10 of said Statement, NJRC states "that it would like to become a switching carrier for Conrail." While Conrail has met with NJRC regarding its proposal, we require additional information from NJRC before we will be able to formulate our position.

Counsel for NJRC has consented to this request. Please contact me if you have any questions or if we can be of further assistance.

Sincerely,


Jonathan M. Broder
Vice President-General Counsel &
Corporate Secretary

c: John Edwards, Esq.
Steven J. Madonna, Esq.
Fritz R. Kahn, Esq.